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CS Art Contest

SNAKE DRAWN BY SOUL. TINY EDITS BY ESTORIEL

COME JOIN US IN OUR CELEBRATIONS OF CHINESE NEW YEAR AND THE UNFOLDING OF THE YEAR OF THE SNAKE WITH CAVE SCANS' VERY FIRST ART CONTEST!
WHO: EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE
WHAT: CREATE AN ORIGINAL PIECE OF ARTWORK FEATURING THE BOUNTIFUL, HARBINGER OF GOOD FORTUNE OF THE CHINESE ZODIAC, THE SNAKE
WHEN: SUBMISSION ACCEPTED UNTIL FEBRUARY 28TH, 2013
WHERE: SUBMIT YOUR WORK TO CAVESCANLATION@GMAIL.COM
WHY: TO WIN GREAT PRIZES LIKE A RAR/ZIP FILE OF YOUR FAVOURITE CAVE SCAN RELEASE, ADVANCE ACCESS TO NEW RELEASES, A LINK TO WEBSITE, HAVING YOUR ARTWORK DISPLAYED ON ALL NEW RELEASES, A 2013 CALENDAR OF YOUR FAVOURITE MANGA OR ANIME MADE JUST FOR YOU AND THE CHANCE TO SELECT THE NEXT ART CONTEST THEME.
DON'T: BE AN ART THIEF. YOU'LL BE DISQUALIFIED, DRAGGED DOWN INTO THE BOWELS OF CAVE SCAN HIDDEN TORTURE CHAMBERS AND FED TO THE PIRANHAS.

MORE INFORMATIONS ON OUR WEBSITE:
HTTP://CAVESCANS.HCPSGC.INFO/BLOG/?P=1248

Cave Scanlations

NOTE: RI=SAPPHIRE_FOX

Funny stuff from the Cave Scanlation staff

"ESTOS EPIC TYPOS" - FAST TYPING AND OLD KEYBOARDS DON'T LIKE EACH OTHER!

ESTORIEL LYZANDREL I'M BACK FROM VISITING THE RIVER STYX .. BUT NOW I'M FULLY REFRESHED AND BACK..XD *ALL EXAMS ARE OVER FOR NOW... HOPE IT'LL STAY SOME WEEKS LIKE THIS*
TSUKIKO: RIVER STYX HUH?
RI: HAVE YOU BEEN ILL? O_O
ESTORIEL LYZANDREL YEP...
THAT GREAT RIVER... WITH A SINGLE ***BOOT*** CROSSING IT... HAD A NICE CHAT WITH MY OLD FRIEND CHARON...XD
ESTORIEL LYZANDREL NOPE, BUT DEADLY EXHAUSTED DUE TO EXAMS...EVERY DAY I HAD AT LEAST ONE...FRIDAYS..TWO...<<
TSUKIKO: ***BOAT*** IS WHAT I'M SURE YOU WERE REFERRING TO!
RI: THATS REALLY AWFUL..
TSUKIKO: OTHERWISE YOU'D LOOK FUNNY CROSSING THE RIVER IN A BOOT!
ESTORIEL LYZANDREL I DUN KNOW HOW MANY SLEEPING HOURS I MISSED OUT CAND I ALRAEDY DON'T SLEEP MUCH..) <-----STILL NOT REALISING/READING PREVIOUS POST BY TSUKI
RI: AHAHAHHA SURE XD
RI: ITS THE CHOOCHOOSHOE
ESTORIEL LYZANDREL BETTER THAN SWIMMING...XD I WOULD HAVE DROWN BEFORE GETTING TO THE OTHER SIDE FOR A SIGTHSEEING TOUR! I EVEN COULD PLAY WITH THE THREE-HEADED DOGGY CALLED CERBERUS... <----STILL NOT REALISING...
ESTORIEL LYZANDREL AH YES...LOL ***BOA***-LOL <--ANOTHER TYPO!
ESTORIEL LYZANDREL EH...BOAT
RI: BOA XDDD <-- THOUGHT ABOUT THE FEATHERED ONE!
RI: YOU PASS THE RIVER VERY STYLISH
ESTORIEL LYZANDREL DAMN IT...XD YES...I FIRST CROSSED IT ON A SHOE...THEN ON A BOA AND AFTERWARDS I WENT ON THE BOAT..LOL
ESTORIEL LYZANDREL XD
ESTORIEL LYZANDREL YEAH..LOL THOUGH I PREFER THE BOA SOMEHOW..XP <--THE SNAKE, NOT THE FEATHERED BOA!

Cave Scanlations

WHAT IS SOUL DOING THERE?
Soul
Estoriel
EMPEROR, SHALL WE RELEASE THE NEW CHAPTER NOW?
I'M READY TO GO ON THE BATTLEFIELD AND DELIVER THIS CHAPTER.
Even if it costs me my life...
DOES HE KNOW THAT THE READERS WILL OVERRUN HIM?
This is suicide...
Hmm..
SHOULD I WARN HIM OR NOT?
KEKEKE... SURE, WHY NOT?
mumble Then I can take some days off work to visit you in the hospital *mumble*
The evil plan takes shape!...
fired up
WITH THIS RELEASE WE GET THEM TO JOIN OUR GROUP FOR FASTER RELEASES!
THEY CAN COME AND TRY GETTING IT! WE USE IT AS BAIT!

BLOODLINE
[Fantasy Day]
I

建议上架：动漫/青少年/校园/故事
ISBN 978-7-5405-4041-8
9 787540 540418 >
定价：30.00元（1~2册）

BLOODLINE

AI QU IS FROM THE CITY OF TIANJIN BUT CAN'T SPEAK THE TIANJIN DIALECT. AI IS 1.8M TALL, A GEMINI AND GRADUATED IN 2005 FROM NANKAI UNIVERSITY WITH A DEGREE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY FROM THE SCHOOL OF LIFE SCIENCES.

AI WON THE FIRST CF (COMIC FANS) NEW ARTIST AWARD FOR THE SHORT STORY "1/2 GIRLFRIEND". BEGINNING WITH THE SECOND OACC GOLDEN DRAGON CHINESE MANHUA COMPETITION, THE AUTHOR PARTICIPATED FOR FOUR YEARS CONSECUTIVELY. FINALLY, ON THE FOURTH ATTEMPT, THE AUTHOR WON AN AWARD IN THE MOST OUTSTANDING YOUTH MANHUA CATEGORY WITH "INFINITY GAME". THE AUTHOR CURRENTLY HAS "BLOODLINE" (ILLUSION OF A HOLY DEMON) SERIALIZED IN "MANHUA SHOW".

AUTHORED WORKS:

INDEPENDENT FOUR-FRAME
"BLOODLINE" HOUSE OF TOMATOES

BLOODLINE PREQUEL
"BLOODLINE – INFINITY GAME"
(PUBLISHED)

"BLOODLINE" FANTASY DAY
(PUBLISHED)

"BLOODLINE" LOST PARADISE
(PUBLISHED)

BLOODLINE TRUE STORY
"BLOODLINE" ILLUSION OF THE HOLY DEMON
(IN SERIALIZATION)

SHOW
精品图书系列

COULD SEE THINGS THAT OTHERS COULDN'T, YOU'D CERTAINLY BE THOUGHT OF AS A LIAR.

EVER SINCE I WAS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL, I COULD SEE A HUGE TOWER ON THE HORIZON THAT EXTENDS ALL THE WAY INTO THE CLOUDS. AND I BEGAN LOOKING FOR A ROUTE TO REACH IT.

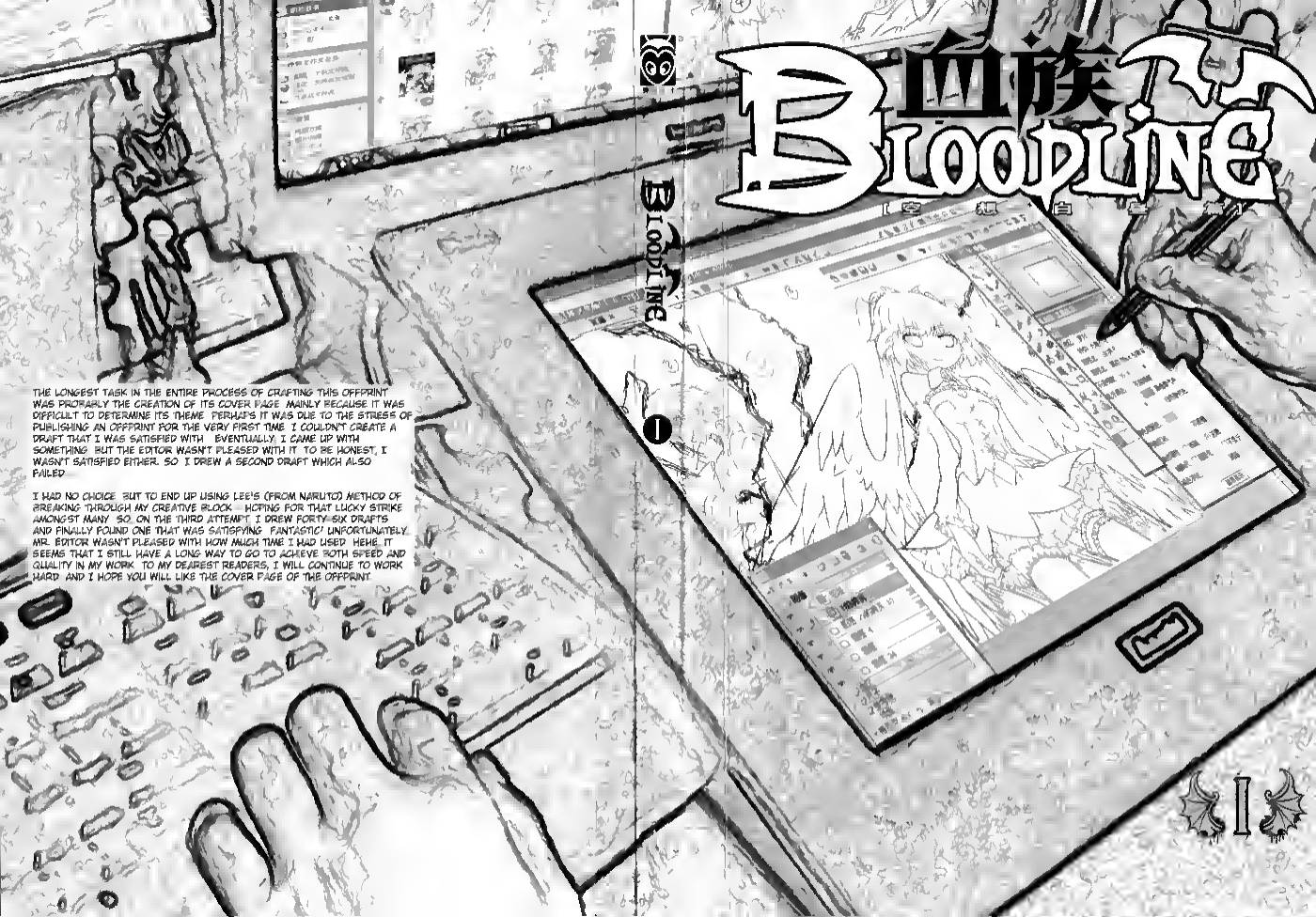
IN 2005, THE UNSKILLED AND UNKNOWN ME DECIDED TO DRAW MANHUA AS A PROFESSION.

SOME PEOPLE, WORKING UNDER A WELL-KNOWN MANHUA ARTIST AND TEACHER SUPPOSEDLY SAID AT THAT POINT, "AI OU HAS NO FUTURE."

THANKS TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HELPED ME, LIKED ME, AND LOVED ME.

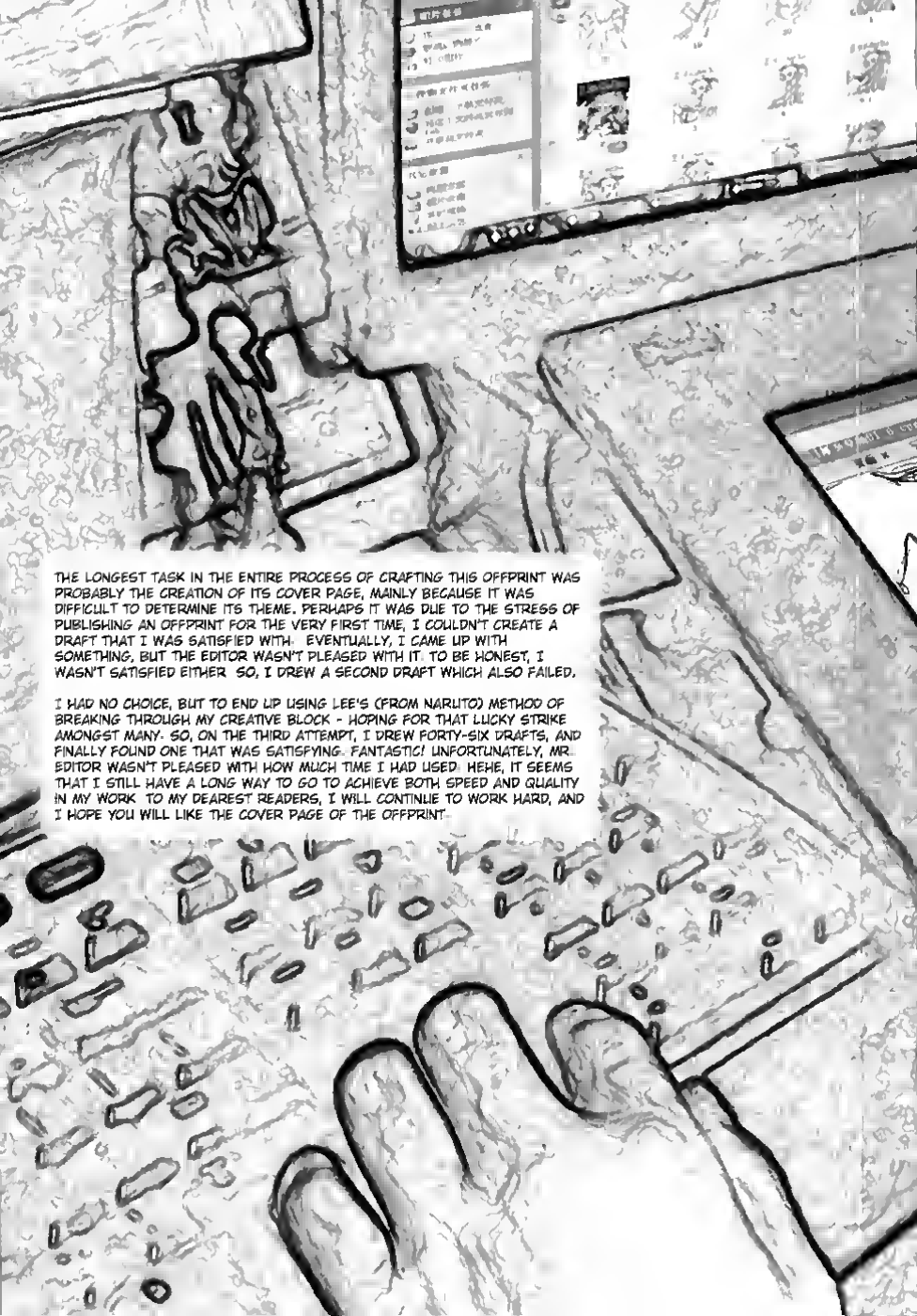
THANKS TO THOSE OF YOU WHO BLOCKED MY WAY, DISLIKED ME, AND HATED ME.

AND OF COURSE, THE ONE I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO IS YOU, THE BUYER OF THIS BOOK. HOW I MANAGED TO DRAW A BOOK YOU ARE WILLING TO BUY IS A QUESTION I HAVE THOUGHT ABOUT FOR 20 YEARS. THANK YOU! I LOVE YOU.



THE LONGEST TASK IN THE ENTIRE PROCESS OF CRAFTING THIS OFFPRINT WAS PROBABLY THE CREATION OF ITS COVER PAGE. MAINLY BECAUSE IT WAS DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE ITS THEME. PERHAPS IT WAS DUE TO THE STRESS OF PUBLISHING AN OFFPRINT FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME. I COULDN'T CREATE A DRAFT THAT I WAS SATISFIED WITH. EVENTUALLY, I CAME UP WITH SOMETHING. BUT THE EDITOR WASN'T PLEASED WITH IT. TO BE HONEST, I WASN'T SATISFIED EITHER. SO I DREW A SECOND DRAFT WHICH ALSO FAILED.

I HAD NO CHOICE. BUT TO END UP USING LEE'S (FROM NARUTO) METHOD OF BREAKING THROUGH MY CREATIVE BLOCK — HOPING FOR THAT LUCKY STRIKE AMONGST MANY. SO, ON THE THIRD ATTEMPT, I DREW FORTY-SIX DRAFTS AND FINALLY FOUND ONE THAT WAS SATISFYING. FANTASTIC! UNFORTUNATELY, MR. EDITOR WASN'T PLEASED WITH HOW MUCH TIME I HAD USED. HEHE. IT SEEMS THAT I STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO TO ACHIEVE BOTH SPEED AND QUALITY IN MY WORK. TO MY DEAREST READERS, I WILL CONTINUE TO WORK HARD. AND I HOPE YOU WILL LIKE THIS COVER PAGE OF THE OFFPRINT.



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血族 BLOODLINE

[Fantasy Day]

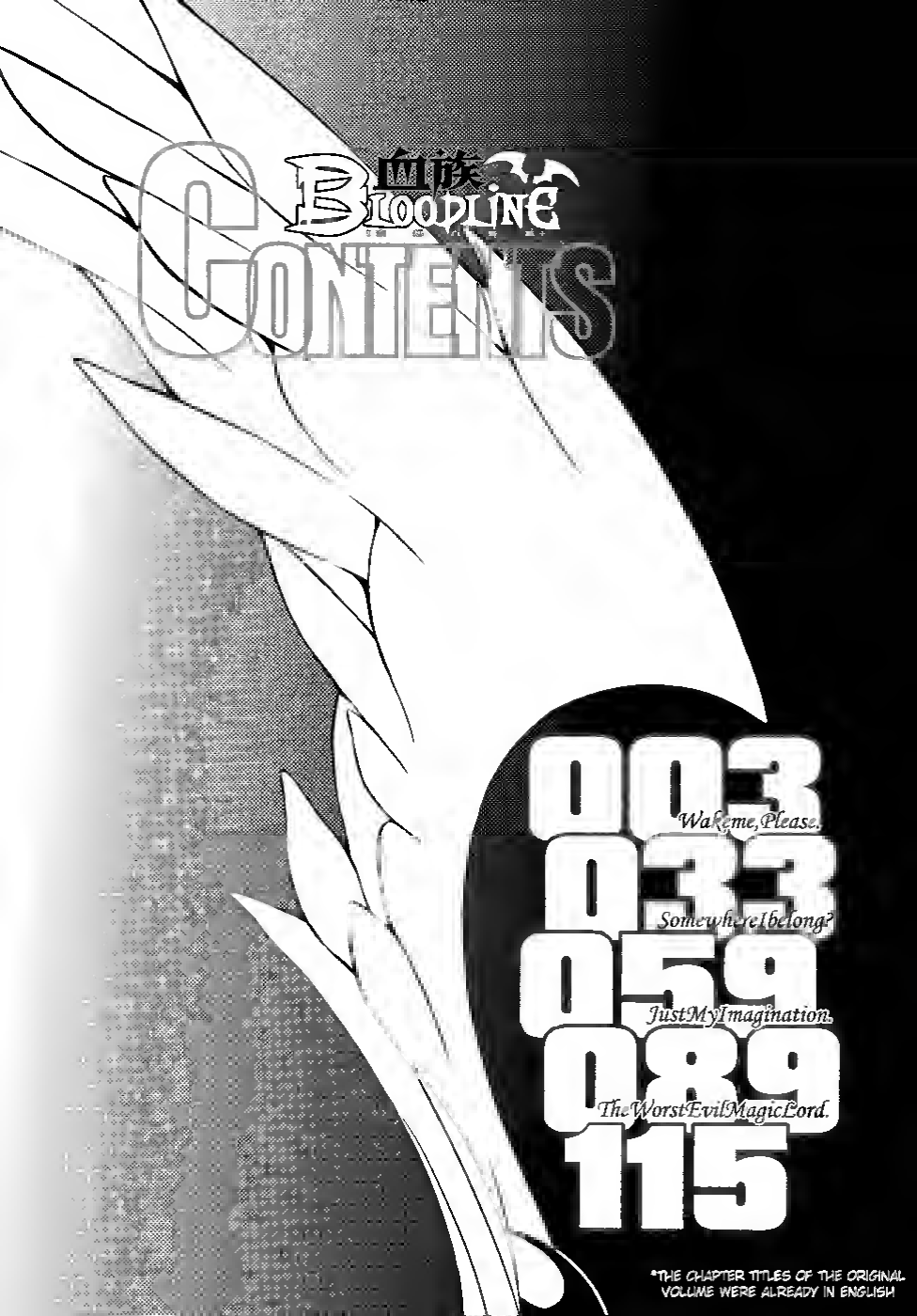
I

DADDY, WHY DOES THE SUN HATE ME SO MUCH?

HAH, THAT'S BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH OUR HEARTS LIVE ON, OUR BODIES HAVE ALREADY DIED.

COMPILED BY: AI OU

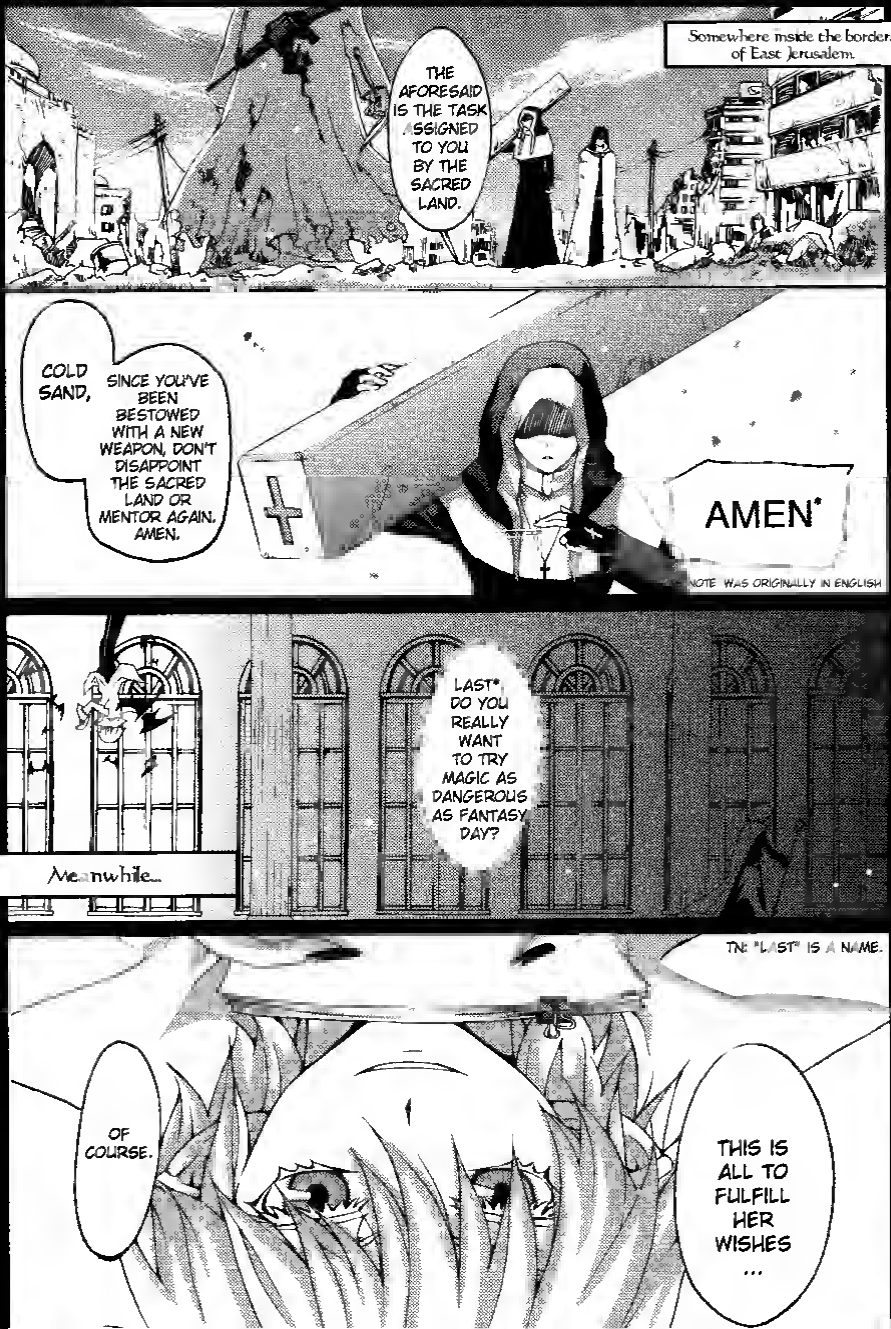
TN: READ FROM LEFT TO RIGHT!



*THE CHAPTER TITLES OF THE ORIGINAL VOLUME WERE ALREADY IN ENGLISH

Episode01 Eroding Daylight

——Wake me, please.


Somewhere inside the borders of East Jerusalem.
THE AFORESAID IS THE TASK ASSIGNED TO YOU BY THE SACRED LAND.
COLD SAND,
SINCE YOU'VE BEEN BESTOWED WITH A NEW WEAPON, DON'T DISAPPOINT THE SACRED LAND OR MENTOR AGAIN. AMEN.
AMEN*
*NOTE WAS ORIGINALLY IN ENGLISH
Meanwhile...
LAST* DO YOU REALLY WANT TO TRY MAGIC AS DANGEROUS AS FANTASY DAY?
*TN: "LAST" IS A NAME.
OF COURSE.
THIS IS ALL TO FULFILL HER WISHES ...

TO FULFILL MY DAUGHTER, LILO AI'S, DREAM
AS A VAMPIRE
THAT LOWLY, YET ETERNAL DAYDREAM.
Blood Clan Sanctuary Elishin

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
thud
thud
thud
thud
thud
NO!
UWAAAAAAAAHHHH~~~

LONG WEI*~
HERE~
HAI AN~
HERE~
LU XIAO QING~
HERE~
CHONG YIN~
TEACHER, DURIAN* CHONG JUST LEFT.
WHAT!?
*TS NOTE: IF YOU READ OUR PREVIOUS PROJECT INFINITY GAME BY THE SAME ARTIST/AUTHOR, YOU SHOULD RECOGNIZE SOME OF THESE NAMES!^^
*PR NOTE: DURIAN IS A NICKNAME THAT IS EXPLAINED A LITTLE LATER.
CHONG YIN, ARE YOU HERE?
...UH HUH, OKAY...
...I GOT IT.
DAMN IT, DURIAN, I KNOW YOU'RE HERE! COME OUT NOW!

CHONG YIN, WHAT KIND OF TROUBLE HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOURSELF INTO NOW?
IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT, FEI HU.
NO - NOTHING
BESIDES,
CHECK THIS OUT...

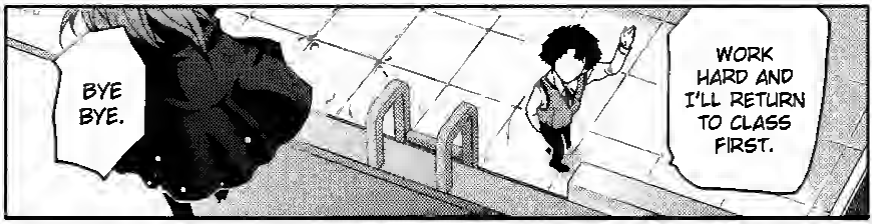
LOOK,
DOESN'T THIS WIG LOOK LIKE A DURIAN FRUIT?
DON'T...
DON'T PRETEND TO BE AN IDIOT WITH ME, YOU STUPID DURIAN!
AH AH .....
IT'S STARTED AGAIN...
CHONG YIN AND FEI HU FROM CLASS 1 ARE REALLY
THEY'RE GETTING LOUD AGAIN, MAN. FEI HU HAS IT HARD.
IS THIS A DAILY ROUTINE?

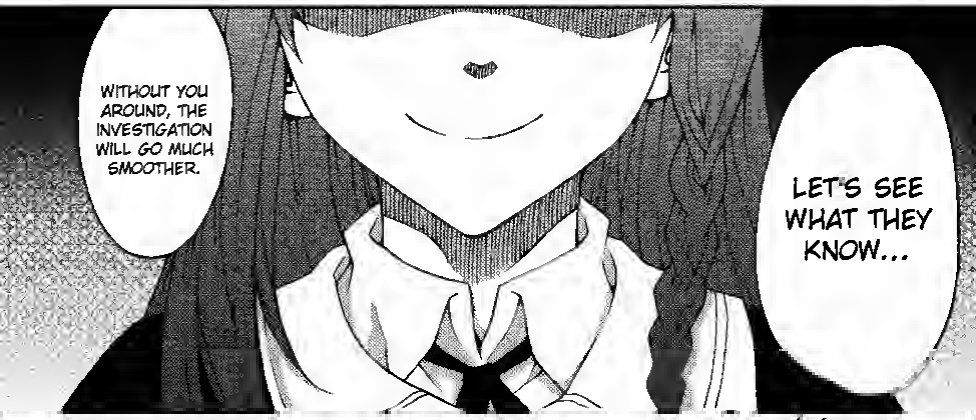
I'M HALLUCINATING AGAIN...
THAT WIG IS REALLY... I CAN'T GET USED TO IT REGARDLESS HOW MANY TIMES I SEE IT.
FIRST, IT WAS HELPING SOMEONE IN A DIFFERENT CLASS CATCH UP ON A MONTH'S WORTH OF WORK
THEN, YOU TRIED TO ENLIVEN THE CLASS BY WEARING THAT WIG EVERY DAY
LAST TIME, YOU TOOK PART IN A COMPETITION FOR THE DUELING CLUB MEMBER WHO BROKE HIS WRIST AND ENDED UP BREAKING YOUR OWN BONES
FOR SUCH A HOPELESSLY GOOD GUY WHO ONLY KNOWS HOW TO HELP OTHERS, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN YOU NEED HELP?

...
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, I'LL FIND YOU.

BUT THIS TIME, THE SITUATION IS DIFFERENT, LOOK...
NOTIA
THIS, THIS IS...?!
YES, THIS IS..... A SCHOOL CAMPUS VAMPIRE.
A FRIEND FROM ANOTHER CLASS JUST TOLD ME THAT SHE'S ALREADY PLANNING TO TRANSFER SCHOOLS.
APPARENTLY, IT'S BECAUSE SHE ENCOUNTERED A MONSTER AFTER SCHOOL

I HOPE THIS IS JUST A PRANK,
BUT...
IF SOMEONE REALLY DARED TO HURT MY FRIENDS...
.....
ALRIGHT, BUT AT LEAST LET ME TAKE THE PLACE OF YOUR RIGHT HAND.
GO BACK TO CLASS FIRST, WHILE I GATHER INFORMATION FROM THE GIRLS.


BYE BYE.
WORK HARD AND I'LL RETURN TO CLASS FIRST.

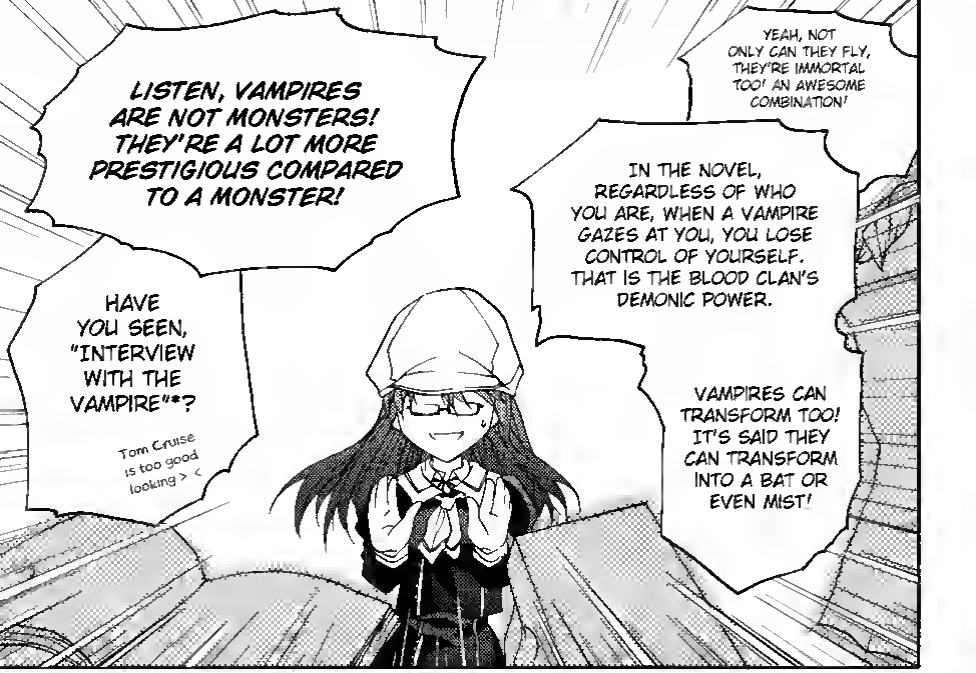

WITHOUT YOU AROUND, THE INVESTIGATION WILL GO MUCH SMOOTHER.
LET'S SEE WHAT THEY KNOW...

AH, CHONG YIN! YOU'RE BACK!
WATCH IT, THE TEACHER'S ALREADY TAKEN ATTENDANCE DURING FREE PERIOD THIS MORNING.

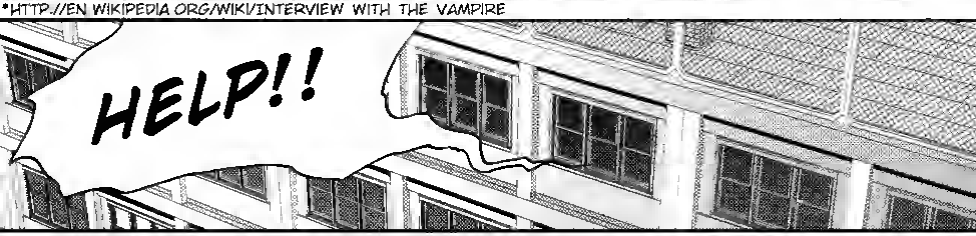
CHONG YIN?
.....
AHAHA, THANK YOU! I'LL TELL YOU A JOKE AS MY THANKS. LISTEN..
[Please wait for a moment.]

WA-
A HA HA HA—
• • • • • •
AHA! LOOKS LIKE I'VE FINALLY FOUND MY BEST AUDIENCE!
WHY DON'T I DO SOME STAND-UP COMEDY FOR YOU NOW?
SURE! IT'LL BE MY FIRST TIME HAVING SOMEONE TELL ME JOKES, SO I'M HAPPY!

CAN YOU TELL ME MORE ABOUT THESE CAMPUS MYSTERIES RUMOURS? I HEAR YOU GUYS ARE IN THE KNOW.
WHY SHOULD WE TELL YOU? YOU REEK ARROGANCE.
Speak.
YES, MA'AM. FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS, A NUMBER OF GIRLS FROM OUR SCHOOL HAVE EITHER DROPPED OUT OR TRANSFERRED OUT THE MESSAGES THEY'VE SENT THEIR CLASSMATES WERE ALL STARTLINGLY SIMILAR.
THEY ALL SAID THEY WERE ATTACKED BY A "CAMPUS VAMPIRE." NATURALLY, THE TEACHERS REFUSED TO BELIEVE IN SUCH SUPERNATURAL MUMBO-JUMBO, BUT IT'S ALSO STRANGE THAT THE SCHOOL HASN'T LOOKED INTO THIS ISSUE EITHER.
THAT'S ALL? OKAY, THANKS!
WE'RE NOT DONE YET!


LISTEN, VAMPIRES ARE NOT MONSTERS! THEY'RE A LOT MORE PRESTIGIOUS COMPARED TO A MONSTER!
YEAH, NOT ONLY CAN THEY FLY, THEY'RE IMMORTAL TOO! AN AWESOME COMBINATION!
IN THE NOVEL, REGARDLESS OF WHO YOU ARE, WHEN A VAMPIRE GAZES AT YOU, YOU LOSE CONTROL OF YOURSELF. THAT IS THE BLOOD CLAN'S DEMONIC POWER.
HAVE YOU SEEN, "INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE"*?
Tom Cruise is too good looking > <
VAMPIRES CAN TRANSFORM TOO! IT'S SAID THEY CAN TRANSFORM INTO A BAT OR EVEN MIST!

*HTTP://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/INTERVIEW_WITH_THE_VAMPIRE



SIGH - WHAT BAD LUCK, RUNNING INTO A BUNCH OF CRAZY VAMPIRE MOVIE FANATICS.
BUT AT LEAST I GOT SOME INFORMATION.
THIS SHOULD MAKE HIM HAPPY, RIGHT? SO, SHOULD I GIVE IT TO HIM OR NOT?
Hehe...anyway, gotta find him first
HAHAHAHA!
OH HO! YOU THINK THIS IS A GREAT JOKE TOO, RIGHT?

Heh heh heh
SO, THE NEXT JOKE GOES...
HUH?!

CHONG YIN DOES NOT SIT NEXT TO HER IN CLASS! IT SHOULD BE THAT GIRL WITH SHORT BLACK HAIR!
So unremarkable that I forgot her name...
HEY! YOU OKAY?
WHO'S THE GIRL BESIDE CHONG YIN?
A junior high? (13 14 years old)
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? CHONG YIN SITS BESIDE HER IN CLASS.
EH?

SKIPPING SO MUCH CLASS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOUR CLASS IS, EH?
WHO'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? CHONG YIN HAS ALWAYS BEEN SEATED NEXT TO HER.
!!!

……
ring
铃
ring
铃
ring
铃
ring
铃
ring
铃

One, Two,
One, Two,
One, Two,
One, Two,
CHONG YIN, YOU ABSENTED YOURSELF FROM PE, TOO?
MMM, I HURT MY ARM IN THE EARLIER MATCH. WHAT ABOUT YOU?
AH, WELL.. MY BODY IS NATURALLY WEAK. I CAN'T PLAY OUTDOOR SPORTS.
SIGH, I REALLY FEEL LIKE PLAYING BASKET-BALL.
WHEN NO ONE'S IN CLASS, IT REALLY FEELS LIKE A DIFFERENT PLACE.

YOU'RE IN A GOOD MOOD.
SO WHAT IS IT THAT MAKES YOU SO HAPPY EVERYDAY?
LOTS OF THINGS,
LIKE THE MORNING SUN SHINING INTO THE CLASS-ROOM;
LIKE THE NOISE EVERYONE MAKES DURING RECESS; LIKE TALKING TO CHONG YIN RIGHT NOW.
LIKE... BEING ABLE TO MAKE LOTS OF FRIENDS IN SCHOOL

.....
AREN'T THESE ALL NORMAL THINGS? YOU EASILY EXPERIENCE THEM EVERYDAY.
EASILY EXPERIENCE..
TO ACHIEVE ALL YOUR WISHES.
ONLY, IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE.

ACK... DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?
ARE YOU OK?
HEY?!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU?

tmp
吐血！

STAY WITH ME!
I'M GONNA TAKE YOU TO THE INFIRMARY!
... I DON'T FEEL SO GOOD.
I'M SO
HUNGRY

WE'RE ALMOST THERE! AH, SHIT. IF ONLY MY RIGHT ARM WASN'T BROKEN!
WHY DOES HER GRIP FEEL TIGHTER...

TEACHER, I'LL BE LEAVING THEN.
MASTER, ENOUGH OF THIS PRETENSE ARE YOU ALRIGHT NOW?
YOU'RE HUNGRY, RIGHT? OR ARE YOU NOT USED TO THE SUN?
ALRIGHT, THANK YOU STUDENT. HURRY BACK TO CLASS.
OKAY.
click
OK.

MASTER?
I'M SAVED!
I WAS SO HUNGRY; IT'S SO HARD TO ENDURE.

A REAL "VAMPIRE" HUH...
BUT WHY IS A VAMPIRE APPEARING DURING THE DAY...
INTERESTING!

-BIT BY BIT, OVER TIME, IT WILL ACCUMULATE INTO A MOUNTAIN.

SINCE BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL MANHUA ARTIST, I WAS RECENTLY ASKED BY A JOURNALIST, "WHEN YOU GET TOO OLD AND CAN'T DRAW ANYMORE, WHAT WILL YOU DO?" I SAID, "I'LL JUST PUT MYSELF IN A CAGE AT THE ZOO." THERE ARE PROBABLY MORE PANDAS IN WOLONG, SICHUAN PROVINCE THAN THERE ARE PROFESSIONALLY ESTABLISHED, SERIAL MAGAZINE PUBLISHING MANHUA ARTISTS IN THE WHOLE OF CHINA. SO, WHEN I'M OLD, I'LL BE LIKE A RARE SPECIES AND SURVIVE JUST LIKE THE PANDAS DO, BY GETTING VISITORS. HAHAHA.

IN GRADE TWO OR SO, WHEN I WAS ABOUT 8 YEARS OLD, MANHUA WAS VERY POPULAR AMONG MY CLASSMATES. SADLY, MY PARENTS BOUGHT ME A ROBOT CAT BECAUSE I WASN'T ALLOWED TO HAVE MANHUA WITH "MESSY" FIGHT SCENES IN IT. AS A RESULT, I WASN'T PART OF THE "IN CROWD" OF STUDENTS WHO HAD MANHUA NOR DID I EVER READ THE THREE BIG TITLES AT THE TIME: "DRAGON BALL", "SAINT SEIYA" AND "CITY HUNTER." THEN, ONE TIME, WHEN I WAS ACCOMPANYING MY GRANDMA TO A NEARBY BOOKSTORE, MY GRANDMA ASKED ME WHAT I WANTED. I IMMEDIATELY SAW MY ONE-IN-A-MILLION CHANCE AND ASKED FOR A MANHUA. THIS STORE ONLY HAD "SEVEN LAUGHING FISTS (RANMA 1/2)*." EVEN THOUGH I KNEW NOTHING OF THIS MANHUA, I STILL TOOK IT. FROM THEN ON, I BECAME A RANMA FAN, FOLLOWING THIS WEIRD, GENDER-BENDING STORY FOR A LONG TIME...

IN ART CLASSES, OUR HOMEWORK WAS TO COPY A WORK OF ART AND BECAUSE I LIKED RANMA, I THOUGHT ABOUT DRAWING IT. BUT NO MATTER HOW CAREFULLY I DREW, I JUST COULDN'T DRAW IT NICELY. THIS WAS WHEN MY MOM TAUGHT ME A DRAWING TECHNIQUE**; FIND A DRAWING OF RANMA'S FACE, DRAW GRID LINES ON THE FACE AND THEN DRAW ACCORDING TO THE BOXES. BY COPYING AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE, EACH BOX ONE-BY-ONE, MY ARTWORK SHOWED GOOD RESULTS. SO MUCH SO, THAT MY DRAWING LOOKED ALMOST LIKE THE ORIGINAL DRAWING. I THOUGHT, "IT'S NOT THAT HARD!" LATER, I GOT SOME TRACING PAPER AND TRANSPARENT GRID SHEETS FROM MY MOM AND STARTED TRACING DRAWINGS FROM THE MANHUA. BESIDES TRACING FROM RANMA, I ALSO STARTED TRACING FROM MINAKO NARITA'S "CIPHER" BECAUSE I THOUGHT THE PEOPLE LOOKED REALLY GOOD...

*TN NOTE: ACCORDING TO SOME CHINESE FORUMS, "RANMA 1/2" WAS INITIALLY RELEASED AS "SEVEN LAUGHING FISTS" IN CHINA.

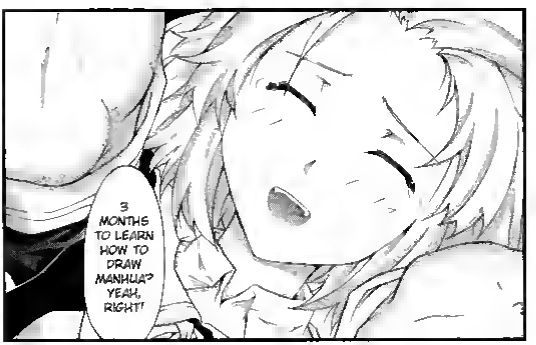
**PR: GRID DRAWING HTTP://DRAWSKETCH.ABOUT.COM/OD/DRAWINGLESSONSANDTIPS/SS/GRIDDRAWING.HTM

AS I REACHED MIDDLE SCHOOL (13 YEARS OLD), THE TYPES OF MANHUA IN THE MARKETPLACE BECAME MORE ABUNDANT. I HAD MY OWN ROOM BY THEN, AND HAD STARTED SAVING A LITTLE OF MY ALLOWANCE. I WAS EVEN ALLOWED TO BUY SOME MANHUA THEN TOO. I HAD BEEN CATCHING UP ON TITLES, ONE BY ONE LIKE: "YU YU HAKUSHO", "GHOST SWEEPER MIKAMI", "SAILOR MOON" AND "3X3 EYES." UNFORTUNATELY, I RAN OUT OF MONEY TO BUY MORE NEW BOOKS, SO THEN I WENT TO A NEARBY USED BOOK BAZAAR AND SOLD OFF MY DAMAGED "YU YU HAKUSHO" BOOKS.

IT WAS IN THIS BAZAAR THAT I SAW "HUA SHU DA WANG" AND "JIN HONG MAN HUA," TWO MAGAZINES FOR ORIGINAL MANHUA PUBLICATION. I WAS DEEPLY SHOCKED THAT THE CONTENTS WITHIN CONSISTED OF CHINA'S OWN MANHUA ARTISTS: SO THE COMIC INDUSTRY ISN'T MADE SOLELY BY THE JAPANESE, BUT THAT NORMAL PEOPLE COULD DRAW MANHUA. THAT MEANS THAT EVEN I COULD DRAW COMICS TOO!

I WAS MORE DEEPLY IMPRESSED WITH "HUA SHU DA WANG" BECAUSE OF THE TUTORIALS BY AKIRA TORIYAMA AND THE WORK OF CHINESE ARTIST YAN KAI, WHOSE DEPICTIONS OF GIRLS WERE SO BEAUTIFUL, NOT AT ALL INFERIOR TO JAPANESE ARTWORK. IN "JIN HONG MAN HUA" THERE WERE A LOT OF SELF-HELP TUTORIALS AND THE WHOLE BOOK WAS FILLED WITH MANHUA DRAWN BY CHINESE. IT EVEN SAID THE MAIN AUTHOR SPENT ONLY 3 MONTHS TO LEARN HOW TO DRAW MANHUA, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AN INTRODUCTION TO PENS/PENCILS, SCREENTONES AND SO ON. THERE WERE LOTS OF USEFUL TUTORIALS, ONE OF WHICH INSTRUCTED US TO DRAW A CHARACTER'S BODY BEFORE DRAWING THEIR CLOTHES. SO THAT'S IT! THIS WAY IT WON'T BE WEIRD WHEN YOU DRAW A CLOTHED BODY. I TOOK IT ALL TO HEART.

LATER, "HUA SHU DA WANG" AND "JIN HONG MAN HUA" DISAPPEARED, AND 5155 PROJECT WAS CREATED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT THE GROWTH OF ORIGINAL MANHUA. THIS RESULTED IN 5 ORIGINAL MAGAZINES COMING OUT WITH LOTS OF MANHUA OF VARYING QUALITY. AFTER SEEING THEM I THOUGHT DRAWING MANHUA HAD POTENTIAL. OF THE 5 MAGAZINES, ONE CAN USUALLY SEE "YOUTH COMICS" AND "BEIJING COMIC" IN TIAN JIN PROVINCE. AFTER BUYING AND COMPARING BOTH, I FOUND THAT "BEIJING COMIC" FOCUSSED MORE ON TRADITIONAL FEATURES. USUALLY THERE ARE SOME MANHUA THAT DON'T CONFORM TO JAPANESE AESTHETICS AND I DON'T LIKE IT. SO I USE "YOUTH COMICS" AS MY IDEAL.



*IN TRIBUTE TO WHAT I HAVE LOST, I HAVE GAINED EQUIVALENT EXCHANGE IN MANHUA.